

It is heartbreaking that this pandemic has taken one of our community's rising leaders.

Madam Speaker, please join me in extending condolences to Marny's parents, her seven siblings, her extended family, and her friends at this time of great grief.

□ 1715

#### POLICING IS STATE AND LOCAL RESPONSIBILITY

(Mr. ARRINGTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, the vast majority of law enforcement across the country are good. They are competent. They are professional. And they serve with integrity. And when they don't, with the immense power they have over their fellow citizens, they must be held accountable, but that starts at the local level.

Policing is a State and local responsibility, not a Federal responsibility. When local leaders fail to do their job and citizens fail to hold them accountable, the system breaks down. You have incidences of abuse and, sometimes, cultures of corruption.

So what is the solution? It is not another top-down, one-size-fits-all from Washington, D.C.

We don't need to Federalize policing. We need to hold our local leaders accountable. We need to come alongside of them at all levels of government to make sure that we don't recycle the bad actors. So we get rid of them. And if we do, then the 1 percent won't take the 99 percent that are protecting and serving us and risking their lives to do so.

#### IN MEMORY OF DR. JAMES HENRY NEELY

(Mr. KELLY of Mississippi asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Dr. James Henry Neely, who passed away on Monday, June 22, in Oxford, Mississippi.

Dr. Neely was born August 8, 1932, in West Point, Mississippi. His many accomplishments began at Mary Holmes College High School. He was the editor of the school newspaper, secretary of the senior class, president of the athletic club, and member at large of the student council. He took his successes to Kentucky State University, earning a degree in chemistry and a minor in math and French.

His passion for chemistry and academia led Dr. Neely to Meharry Medical College in 1960. After graduation, he took his leadership skills to the United States Air Force, where he served honorably until his discharge in 1964, and he relocated in Tupelo, Mississippi. He served his community as a

medical practitioner for 35 years. He was the first African American doctor to have hospital privileges, admitting privileges, and could treat patients at North Mississippi Medical Center.

He would go on to earn the Mississippi Medical Surgical Award, Practitioner of the Year, and Meharry Medical College Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Neely, though, will tell you his greatest accomplishment was his marriage to Elaine Kilgore for 66 years.

Outside of the medical profession, Dr. Neely held many memberships, including the National Medical Association, the Black Business Association of Mississippi, the NAACP, and was a member of the West Point Trinity United Presbyterian Church. He was not only a prominent figure in the medical field, but in the community in which he served.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife, Elaine; his son, my friend and mentor and an assistant district attorney in my office, Brian Neely; his daughter, acclaimed poet and Goodwill Ambassador for the State of Mississippi, Patricia Neely-Dorsey; his four grandchildren, and many others.

Dr. Neely led a life we should all admire. He affected change in Mississippi and this Nation by his life of public service.

#### IN HONOR OF MONSIGNOR J. GASTON HEBERT'S 60TH ORDINATION

(Mr. HILL of Arkansas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Monsignor J. Gaston Hebert's 60th ordination as a priest as well as to salute his lasting contributions to our Catholic diocese in Arkansas.

He was baptized and received his First Communion at St. Mary Church in Hot Springs, where he also celebrated his first mass as an ordained priest in 1960.

I was privileged to have Monsignor Hebert as my teacher at Catholic High School in Little Rock, where he served as an English and drama teacher from 1960 to 1965.

Even after he retired from serving as the pastor of Christ the King Church in Little Rock for 20 years, he continued to serve the diocese in Arkansas as vicar general under Bishop Andrew McDonald and Archbishop J. Peter Sartain. And again, importantly, as our diocesan administrator from 2006 to 2008, prior to the Holy Father's appointment of Bishop Anthony Taylor.

Monsignor Hebert has served our community faithfully, and I thank him for his love, dedication, and years of service.

Madam Speaker, we miss seeing him and are forever grateful.

#### REMEMBERING DEPUTY JAMES BLAIR

(Mr. GUEST asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, last week, we were reminded once again of the great sacrifice made by the men and women of law enforcement as family, friends, and fellow officers gathered to pay their respects to Deputy James Blair, who lost his life in the line of duty on Friday, June 12 in Simpson County, Mississippi.

Deputy Blair was a husband, a father, a grandfather, and a great-grandfather, who devoted his life to his family, his community, and to law enforcement. He was a generous man who was deeply loved and worked to support his grandchildren following the passing of their mother.

Deputy Blair spent over 50 years of his life in service to his fellow man through law enforcement. He will be deeply missed by our Mississippi family, but his selfless spirit will live on through the memory of his sacrifice and through those who had the privilege of knowing him during his time on this Earth.

Please join me in a moment of silence in remembrance of Deputy James Blair.

#### DESECRATION OF MONUMENTS

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, you would have to be living in a hole somewhere to not have noticed that across the Nation, the desecration happening to our national monuments, statues, memorials, and even the vandalization of some of our large cities has been running rampant.

It is time for that to end. In many cases, these acts of vandalism are targeted towards longtime institutions of those that tirelessly fought for our freedoms. This desecration must end. And there must be severe penalties for doing these felonious acts.

We have seen George Washington statues, the Father of our country, who valued freedom above all else, knocked down. Ulysses S. Grant, the Commanding General of the Union Army, who helped stop the slavery effort of the South, who signed the Civil Rights Act of 1875 and the ratification of the 15th Amendment, was toppled in San Francisco. Abraham Lincoln, who freed so many from slavery. Even down the street from here, they are having to guard the Mary McLeod Bethune statues down there at Lincoln Park, along with Mr. Lincoln. And she was a key element of FDR's original Federal Council of Negro Affairs, otherwise known as the "Black Cabinet."

There is not even any logic or sense to the vandalism and chaos that is going on here when they are tearing down statues on all sides of the issue. It needs to be stopped, and there needs to be harsh penalties for those doing this.